

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
 Makoto SASAKI et al. : Attn: BOX PCT
 Serial No. 10/049,823 : Docket No. 2002-0255A
 Filed February 19, 2002 :
 METHOD FOR PRODUCING CYCLIC :
 POLYETHER COMPOUNDS :
 [Corresponding to PCT/JP01/01872 :
 Filed March 9, 2001]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
 TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
 FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
 ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
 Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution, please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 12 on page 11 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

Furthermore, the catalyst was changed to Pd(OAc)₂/o-(di-t-butylphosphino)biphenyl, which was reported as being effective in proceeding the coupling reaction in high yield at room temperature (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1999, 121, 9550-9561); the reaction was carried out in dioxane at room temperature for 24 hours.